

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03955 110814Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 JUSE-00 /050 W  
-----068234 110819Z /10  
O 110748Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1016

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3955

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, KS, US  
SUBJECT: ROKG RESPONSE TO EVENTS OF MAY 10 IN WASHINGTON

REF: SNEIDER/RICH TELECON 5/11 (SEOUL TIME)

1. FOLLOWING REF TELECON I LEARNED AT 1010 MAY 11 THAT FOREIGN MINISTER INTENDING TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AT 1030. WHILE WE HAD NOT RECEIVED TELEGRAPHIC REPORTING ON JAWORSKI STATEMENT AND SUBSEQUENT EVENTS, I NEVERTHELESS DECIDED THAT ON BASIS OF INFORMATION PROVIDED TELECON I SHOULD DISCUSS MATTERS WITH FORMIN PRIOR TO HIS PRESS CONFERENCE. I WAS FORTUNATE IN BEING ABLE TO REACH HIM BY PHONE JUST BEFORE HE WAS TO BEGIN. I OUTLINED TO HIM WHAT I UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE BEEN RESULTS OF EVENTS IN WASHINGTON AND URGED THAT ROKG, AS HAD ITS WASHINGTON EMBASSY, TAKE A CALM AND MEASURED VIEW. FORMIN THANKED ME FOR THE CALL AND SAID THAT IN THIS MATTER HIS VIEW AND MINE WERE IN COMPLETE ACCORD.

2. IN SUBSEQUENT PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH DEALT IN THE MOST PART WITH THE HUA VISIT TO PYONGYANG, HE MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON KIM DONG-JO AFFAIR. KEEPING OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN THE FUTURE, THE FORMIN SAID THAT ROKG COOPERATION WILL BE WITHIN SCOPE OF VIENNA CONVENTION. THE ROKG CANNOT  
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CONSENT TO ANY ACTION IN THE NATURE OF AN INVESTIGATIVE ACTION. KIM DONG-JO'S EFFORTS IN WASH WERE BASED ON HIS DUTIES AS AMB TO PROMOTE COOPERATIVE/FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND HE NEVER ENGAGED IN ANY ACTIVITIES DETRIMENTAL TO US INTERESTS. THIS FACT AND OUR POSITION ON COOPERATION WERE CONVEYED TO MR. JAWORSKI. THE ROKG, IN CONSIDERATION OF TRADITIONAL FRIENDLY

RELATIONS HAD HOPED TO COME TO SOME AGREEMENT, AGREEABLE TO BOTH SIDES, AND EXERTED EFFORTS TO THIS END, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THIS FAILED. THE ROKG POSITION IS THAT TRADITIONAL FRIENDLY TIES MUST NOT BE AFFECTED IN ANY WAY BY THIS ISSUE AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN KOREA AND THE US MUST CONTINUE. THE FORMIN ALSO NOTED THAT THE CAPUTO AND JACOBS' BILLS HAD BEEN REJECTED BY US CONGRESS. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT IT WAS FORTUNATE THAT THE MAJORITY IN CONGRESS SHARED THE SAME VIEW AS ROKG, THAT THE ROK/US SECURITY COOPERATIVE SYSTEM MUST NOT BE CONFUSED WITH PARK TUNGSUN OR KIM DONG-JO'S TESTIMONY ISSUES.

3. COMMENT: FROM OUR POSITION HERE IT APPEARS THAT THE ROKG, BOTH IN WASHINGTON AND SEOUL, HAS SO FAR KEPT ITS COOL ON THIS ONE.  
SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SUMMARIES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014